

# The Japanese infatuation with L.M. Montgomery

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A group of Japanese tourists flying from Tokyo to Charlotte-town took a detour to Norval on their layover in Toronto last week.

The group of 38 tourists took a bus from the airport to see Lucy Maude Montgomery's Norval Manse, before flying out to P.E.I.

The diehard Anne of Green Gables fans flew to Canada just to see the landmarks.

"This connection has a longer history than anyone would think," said Jessica Young, a scholar at Ryerson University, studying Montgomery.

To many Canadians, Anne of Green Gables and L.M. Montgomery are Canadian icons, but the stories have a strong following across the globe, especially in Japan.

The Anne of Green Gables series was first translated into Japanese in 1952, by a woman who had been given the English ver-



Jessica Young/Photo

**A group of Japanese tourists visited the Norval Manse on a layover from Tokyo; they were on a completely Anne of Green Gables inspired trip destined for PEI.**

sion before the start of the Second World War.

The book has sold more than 50 million copies across the world.

"I think it just grew in popularity from there," said Young.

In 1979 the series was adapted into an animated television show which became wildly popular. In 2008, Japan Post and Canada Post collaborated for the making of commemorative Anne of Green Gables stamps.

In Hokkaido, Japan, there is a theme park called Canadian World, where there is a full replica of the Anne of Green Gables manor from Cavendish, P.E.I.

"I think there's a lot of reasons," Young said, talking about why the Anne of Green Gables story resonated with a Japanese audience. "But it's not what people think."

She says that to Canadians, Anne is seen as a feminist figure, but the Japanese appreciate her for the role she plays in her small Canadian community.

"They like that she is different and true to herself, but in the end is accepted by her community," said Young.

Yuko Matsumoto translated the series in 1990, annotated with explanations for readers about the Canadian cultural references.

She led the group of visitors to the Norval Manse and has led group trips in previous years.

Anne of Green Gables is also popular in China, Iran and Turkey.

Dear Patient,

I am writing to inform you that after 46 plus years of being a registered massage therapist, I will be retiring as of June 29th, 2018. I am confident and looking forward to the next chapter of my life traveling and spending quality time with my 7 Grandchildren.

It has been a great pleasure meeting and caring for you. I truly appreciate your friendship and loyalty, and I wish you continued good health and all the best in the coming years.

Your medical records are confidential and will remain on file at my home office. You do not need to take any action regarding your records.

If I can be of any assistance prior to my retirement to help you find another RMT, please let me know by Friday, June 29th 2018.

Sincerely,

**Ed Caldwell**

Registered Massage Therapist




*Melinda (Molly) MacKinnon*

**Honours Bachelor of Sociology**

Congratulations, Molly, on your graduation from the University of Guelph.

Once more, you have made us all very proud! Best wishes in all that your future holds for you.

Love from Daddy, Mommy, Cliff, Emily & Fey, Heather, Jeremy & boys, Karen, Katie, Joseph and Alex.



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By Cory Soal  
R.H.A.D.

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*Congratulations*

**ALEX ECCLESTONE**

on receiving your Bachelor of Arts degree with honours from Trent University.

Best wishes as you continue your studies at Queen's University.

Love,  
Dad, Mom and Ben